



WASHINGTON COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

www.wcbhb.org

Thursday, July 25, 2024 ~ 6:00 p.m.

Meeting held In-person

204 Davis Avenue. Marietta, OH

I. Call to Order, Roll Call

A. Vice President David White called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. A quorum was not met, and no business was conducted.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Welcome and Introductions

Present

Mike Beardmore
Eric Fowler
Larry Schwendeman
Janet Welch
David White

Absent

Jarret Barnhouse
Larry Hall
Brett Nicholas
Ron Rees
Leann Lucas

Staff

George Goddard
Tim Hahn
Samantha Matheny
Tara Plaughter

Guests

Sherry Shamblin- Hopewell
Jim Raney- Public
Cathye Williams- Integrated
Wenda Sheard- Public
Brandi Beaver- House of Hope
Linda Sistrunk- Memorial
Karlie Hill- Job & Family Services
Tony Touschner- Public
Rick Hindman- Resource Center
Larkin Warsinsky- Southeastern Ohio Counseling Services

IV. Public Statements – Jim Raney introduced Wenda Sheard running for Ohio House District 94. Sheard is an attorney who has served as the Hocking County Common Pleas Magistrate. She is a former teacher and has worked for the Ohio Domestic Violence Network. Sheard is running for the Ohio House because “voters deserve choices”.

V. Agenda Revisions – No Agenda Revisions

VI. Approval of Minutes – June 27, 2024 A quorum was not met. There was no discussion.

VII. Treasurer’s Report – A quorum was not met. There was no discussion

VIII. Director’s Report- On August 1 Board staff, Integrated Services representatives, and the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Housing Foundation will meet with the Washington County Commissioners to discuss the need for mental health housing and potential funding opportunities. The Board discussed logistics.

IX. Staff Reports

Assistant Director- No updates to the report or questions offered.

Senior Recovery Advocate- Tara reminded attendees to register for the 22nd Recovery Summit that will be held in Washington County at the Marietta Shrine Club. Members of the Board were invited to attend the

Suicide Awareness Alliance “Walk to Remember” on Saturday, September 14, and share the event with others.

The Right Path – No updates to the report or questions were offered.

PAX – No updates to the report or questions offered.

Staff reports will be filed with the minutes.

X. Agency Reports

- A. Hopewell Health** – Sherry Shamblin called attention to the two open houses mentioned in her report. She extended an invitation to attend the newly renovated Coolville open house on July 31 from 3-5 p.m., many Washington County residents travel to the Coolville location for primary care. The REACH Youth Day treatment center will host an open house on August 12 from noon to 4 p.m. All are invited to attend. The REACH center started as a pilot program funded by the Washington County Behavioral Health Board and is now a financially self-sufficient program.
- B. House of Hope**— Brandi Beaver shared that the House of Hope will be closed on July 29 & 30 to allow all staff to attend a Peer Recovery Summit hosted by the Ohio Peer Run Organization. The Summit is held in Columbus, Ohio.
- C. Integrated Services** – In addition to the report, Cathye shared that services and staff numbers continue to grow.
- D. MedMark**- There was no representative in attendance. There was no discussion held on the submitted report or questions offered.
- E. Marietta Memorial Hospital** – Linda Sistrunk shared that two staff are registered for the upcoming August Peer Training hosted by the Board. She projects that the pilot program currently being funded by the Board should be financially self-sustaining by the end of the contract period. She invited members of the Board to start thinking of innovative pilot programs.
- F. Rigel/Oriana House**— There was no representative in attendance. There was no discussion held on the submitted report or questions offered.
- G. Perfect Purpose**- There was no representative in attendance. There was no discussion on the submitted report or questions offered.
- H. Washington County Dept. of Jobs and Family Services**— Karlie shared that thanks to Board funding for the prevention pilot program, staff connected two referrals from the Juvenile Court to appropriate programs and services that avoided placement in foster care.
- I. Washington County Health Department**- There was no representative in attendance. There was no discussion on the submitted report or questions offered.

The agency reports will be filed with the minutes.

XI. Committee Reports

- A. Program Planning & Oversight/Community Relations**— In addition to the report, George shared that EVE Inc. is working on a revised proposal to better reflect the services they provide.

The committee will continue the discussion on board size and difficulties faced in meeting the current quorum.

For fiscal year 2025, the Board would like to be more direct with pilot program requests for proposals by focusing on filling specific gaps in the continuum of care in Washington County. Law Enforcement has voiced a need for additional support during the time between the release from psychiatric hospitalization to the first outpatient treatment appointment. Attendees held a discussion at length on what that supportive service might look like and how to determine the number of individuals who would benefit from such service.

The next PP&O Committee meeting will be held at the Board office located at 1115 Gilman Avenue on Thursday, August 8, 2024, at 5:15 pm.

- XII. Old Business** – No items for discussion.

XIII. New Business

- A. Board Size** – The Board is registered as an 18-member Board with 8 vacancies. Ohio Revised Code states that the board shall consist of 18, 15, 14, 12, or 9 members. An informal discussion was held on reducing the size of the Board. For reference, George shared information regarding the following counties that have recently decided to reduce board size:

Clermont- reduced from 14 to a 12-member board,
Columbiana- reduced from 18 to a 12-member board,
Ashtabula – reduced to a 9-member board in January,
Ashland – reduced from 18 to a 12-member board,
Preble – reduced from a 14 to a 9-member board.

Additional counties have reported that they too are considering reductions.

- B. CoQ Policy Update**- No discussion was held.
C. Pay Band Update- No discussion was held.

XIX. Good of the Order

Eric called attention to all the success of piloting programs. Incredible to hear that so many pilot programs funded by the Board have become financially stable. The REACH youth day treatment and Memorial Health System program are now financially stable and the countless dollars that are being saved from funding the prevention program not to mention the reduction in additional trauma to children and families. Job well done by all.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

**Next Meeting:
August 22, 2024**

**Respectfully Submitted,
Tara Plaughter**

Board President Signature